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16 December 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE RECORD

SUBJECT: 15 and 16 December 1954 Briefing of the Task Force on Intelligence Activities.

1. Undoubtedly the most important briefing received by Colonel Lane thus far was that of the IO Division. This was quite apparent from the number and quality of questions asked and by the special emphasis given to the subject matter by Colonel Lane. His major interests centered on the three costliest projects of the Division, namely, the [REDACTED] 25X1X4
[REDACTED], the American Committee for [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] 25X1X4
Colonel Lane inquired about every phase of these programs including recruitment of people, training, security, organization, mission, policy guidance, operations and evaluation.

2. This was the first session during which Colonel Lane took somewhat extensive notes particularly on organizational structures and budget and personnel figures. Two recurrent questions asked of all Branch Chiefs were: "How much is budgeted for this operation?" "How many people are required to administer it?" He reiterated that the group had specific instruction to closely examine these operations and attempt an evaluation. He stated that there was some criticism regarding these costly operations and thus he wanted to get a clear picture so that he 25X1A9a
could report fairly. At this point [REDACTED] briefed the Colonel on the history of [REDACTED] He explained the difference in operation between [REDACTED] showing that 25X1X4
there is a definite need for both organizations. [REDACTED] informed the Colonel that we were aware of the allegations against the [REDACTED] which 25X1X4
could be traced for the most part to a man named Kurt Glasser who actually is the spokesman for a Sudeten-German group which disagrees with certain U.S. policies and thus in turn opposes the [REDACTED] 25X1X4

3. A long discussion was held on the evaluation of all these operations. Colonel Lane was informed that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were hurt rather badly as evidenced by [REDACTED] 25X1A6a
[REDACTED] 25X1X4
[REDACTED] 25X1A6a

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25X1X4 4. Colonel Lane was somewhat impressed by the Organizations Branch which has as its mission that of [REDACTED] 25X1X4 [REDACTED]. He was amazed upon learning that the Russians are spending approximately one-and-one-half billion dollars a year on these front organisations.

5. In answer to a specific question regarding the use of Russians and former Communists, Colonel Lane was informed that we do deal with these people and that to our knowledge they are not security risks. Nevertheless, we deal with them on an arm's-length basis and very carefully control them.

6. The IO Division did a creditable job in this day-and-a-half briefing and it is my personal opinion that some preconceived ideas that Colonel Lane harbored regarding these operations have been somewhat altered.

25X1A9a [REDACTED]

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